



Fernbrook Farms Environmental Education Center
2024 Fall Lower-Level Homeschool Semester
Ages 6-11 years old (child must be 6 by the first class)



2-Hour Class Options: Tuesdays 9:30am-11:30am, Tuesdays 1:00pm-3:00pm,
Thursdays 9:30am-11:30am or Thursdays 1:00pm-3:00pm

Enrichment Program Options: Wednesdays or Fridays 9:30am-3:00pm

Hens and Hogs

September 17th – 20th

Among the livestock at Fernbrook Farms are chickens and pigs, two types of domesticated animals with very different needs. We will learn how these animals are cared for and handled and make animal treats and shelters!

Creek Sneak

September 24th – 27th

Many species of wildlife depend on a creek for survival. The class will have the opportunity to walk the farm's creek bed and observe its associated flora and fauna. We will also learn to locate and identify animal tracks.

Critters of the Creek

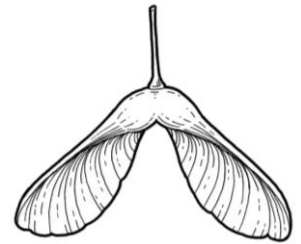
October 1st – 4th

Below the surface of a creek is a variety of invertebrates, such as insects, that are necessary to sustain an aquatic ecosystem. In a continuation of our creek theme, we will collect and observe several species of invertebrates and discuss their role in their environment.

Seeds Galore

October 8th – 11th

Where would we be without seeds? In this class, students will be able to gather and label seeds to establish their own seed collection. We will learn the concepts of dispersal and germination, and why seeds have been and continue to be crucial to humanity.



Organic Farming

October 15th – 18th

We'll discover what it takes to be a farmer by learning about the energy required for food production—from planting to harvesting. We'll explore Fernbrook's Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program, learn what it means to be "organic", and how organic farming differs from more prevalent, conventional farming practices.

Moss is Boss

October 22nd – 25th

Mosses and lichens are two oft-overlooked organisms that can be found in even the harshest of environments. We will search for and identify several types of mosses and lichens. Further, we will learn about their role in the natural world and how they can be considered "microworlds" of their own.

Populations in Nature

October 29th – November 1st

This class on populations focuses on balance in an ecosystem. Students will learn about competition for resources and the flow of energy through natural systems, as well as the impacts that cause extinction.



Mammals of New Jersey

November 5th – 8th

Fox, beaver, groundhog and deer are a few of the mammals that can be spotted while wandering the trails of Fernbrook. Together, we'll look for signs of such animals and attempt to piece together a day in their lives.

Horticulture

November 12th – 15th

Fernbrook Farms Nursery is the setting for our final class of the Fall semester. With a little help from Farmer Q, the students will learn about how the nursery propagates its stock by taking cuttings of trees and other plants.